

Appl. No. 10/728585
Amdt. Dated 7-6-06
Reply to Office Action of 4-7-06

Amendment to the Claims

The present listing of claims replaces all prior versions of the claims.

Listing of Claims

1. (currently amended) An apparatus for resurfacing an ice surface and comprising:

a dolly including

a body and a handle attached thereto,

a plurality of wheels connected to said body and for supporting same thereon so that said dolly can be rolled on an ice surface;

a reservoir removably fastenable onto said body and for housing fluid therein, said reservoir having a front end portion provided with a first aperture for receiving fluid therethrough and further having a rear end portion provided with a second aperture for dispensing fluid therefrom; and

means for operably receiving fluid from the second aperture and distributing fluid substantially evenly onto an ice surface adjacent to the rear end portion of said reservoir;

wherein said fluid receiving and distributing means comprises:

a valve connected to the second aperture and for selectively allowing fluid to flow therefrom;

an elongate pipe connected to said valve and having a plurality of substantially evenly spaced perforations for allowing fluid to pass therethrough;

an elongate support member extending along the length of said pipe and secured thereto at opposed end portions of said pipe and for assisting to maintain same at a substantially stable position during operating conditions;

a plurality of elongate ropes having one end portion attached to the rear end portion of said reservoir respectively and further having an opposed end portion attached to a corresponding end portion of said support member so that

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same can be maintained at a substantially stable position during operating conditions; and

an applicator connected to said support member and for receiving fluid and for assisting to evenly apply fluid onto an ice surface;

wherein said pipe comprises a plurality of flexible couplings spaced apart along a length thereof;

said support member comprises a plurality of hinges spaced apart along a length thereof and substantially aligned with said plurality of flexible couplings;

said plurality of ropes each comprising a fastener attached along a length thereof respectively and removably fastenable to the rear end portion of said reservoir;

the respective opposed end portions of said pipe and said support member being movable between down and up positions about said plurality of flexible couplings and said plurality of hinges so that the amount of fluid dispensed from said pipe can be adjusted as needed, said pipe and said support member being maintainable at up positions when each said fastener is connected to the rear end portion of said reservoir respectively.

2. Canceled.

3. Canceled.

4. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the front end portion of said reservoir is positioned above the rear end portion thereof and for assisting to drain fluid from the reservoir.

5. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a plate secured to said dolly, said plate including a pin for pivotally connecting same to said handle so that said dolly can be pulled in different directions during operating conditions.

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6. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a cap removably attachable to the first aperture of said reservoir and for preventing undesirable elements from entering into said reservoir.

7. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein least one of said plurality of wheels is operably connected to said handle so that said one wheel is caused to move in a direction corresponding to the movement of said handle.

8. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein said applicator is formed from cloth material.

9. (currently amended) An apparatus for resurfacing an ice surface and comprising:

a dolly including

a body and a handle attached thereto,

a plurality of wheels connected to said body and for supporting same thereon so that said dolly can be rolled on an ice surface;

a reservoir removably fastened onto said body and for housing fluid therein, said reservoir having a front end portion provided with a first aperture for receiving fluid therethrough and further having a rear end portion provided with a second aperture for dispensing fluid therefrom; and

means for operably receiving fluid from the second aperture and distributing fluid substantially evenly onto an ice surface adjacent to the rear end portion of said reservoir, said fluid receiving and distributing means comprising

a valve connected to the second aperture and for selectively allowing fluid to flow therefrom,

an elongate pipe connected to said valve and having a plurality of substantially evenly spaced perforations for allowing fluid to pass therethrough,

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an elongate support member extending along the length of said pipe and secured thereto at opposed end portions of said pipe and for assisting to maintain same at a substantially stable position during operating conditions,

a plurality of elongate ropes having one end portion attached to the rear end portion of said reservoir respectively and further having an opposed end portion attached to a corresponding end portion of said support member so that same can be maintained at a substantially stable position during operating conditions, and

an applicator connected to said support member and for receiving fluid and for assisting to evenly apply fluid onto an ice surface;

wherein said pipe comprises a plurality of flexible couplings spaced apart along a length thereof;

said support member comprises a plurality of hinges spaced apart along a length thereof and substantially aligned with said plurality of flexible couplings;

said plurality of ropes each comprising a fastener attached along a length thereof respectively and removably fastenable to the rear end portion of said reservoir;

the respective opposed end portions of said pipe and said support member being movable between down and up positions about said plurality of flexible couplings and said plurality of hinges so that the amount of fluid dispensed from said pipe can be adjusted as needed, said pipe and said support member being maintainable at up positions when each said fastener is connected to the rear end portion of said reservoir respectively.

10. (canceled)

11. (original) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the front end portion of said reservoir is positioned above the rear end portion thereof and for assisting to drain fluid from the reservoir.

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12. (original) The apparatus of claim 9, further comprising a plate secured to said dolly, said plate including a pin for pivotally connecting same to said handle so that said dolly can be pulled in different directions during operating conditions.

13. (original) The apparatus of claim 9, further comprising a cap removably attachable to the first aperture of said reservoir and for preventing undesirable elements from entering into said reservoir.

14. (original) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein at least one of said plurality of wheels is operably connected to said handle so that said one wheel is caused to move in a direction corresponding to the movement of said handle.

15. (original) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein said applicator is formed from cloth material.

16. (currently amended) An apparatus for resurfacing an ice rink and comprising:

a dolly including

a body and a handle attached thereto,

a plurality of wheels connected to said body and for supporting same thereon so that said dolly can be rolled on an ice surface;

a reservoir removably fastened onto said body and for housing fluid therein, said reservoir having a front end portion provided with a first aperture for receiving fluid therethrough and further having a rear end portion provided with a second aperture for dispensing fluid therefrom, said reservoir including a cap removably attachable to the first aperture and for preventing undesirable elements from entering into said reservoir; and

means for operably receiving fluid from the second aperture and distributing fluid substantially evenly onto an ice surface adjacent to the rear end portion of said reservoir, said fluid receiving and distributing means comprising

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a valve connected to the second aperture and for selectively allowing fluid to flow therefrom,

an elongate pipe connected to said valve and having a plurality of substantially evenly spaced perforations for allowing fluid to pass therethrough,

an elongate support member extending along the length of said pipe and secured thereto at opposed end portions of said pipe and for assisting to maintain same at a substantially stable position during operating conditions,

a plurality of elongate ropes having one end portion attached to the rear end portion of said reservoir respectively and further having an opposed end portion attached to a corresponding end portion of said support member so that same can be maintained at a substantially stable position during operating conditions, and

an applicator connected to said support member and for receiving fluid and for assisting to evenly apply fluid onto an ice surface;

wherein said pipe comprises a plurality of flexible couplings spaced apart along a length thereof;

said support member comprises a plurality of hinges spaced apart along a length thereof and substantially aligned with said plurality of flexible couplings;

said plurality of ropes each comprising a fastener attached along a length thereof respectively and removably fastenable to the rear end portion of said reservoir;

the respective opposed end portions of said pipe and said support member being movable between down and up positions about said plurality of flexible couplings and said plurality of hinges so that the amount of fluid dispensed from said pipe can be adjusted as needed, said pipe and said support member being maintainable at up positions when each said fastener is connected to the rear end portion of said reservoir respectively.

17. (canceled)

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18. (original) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the front end portion of said reservoir is positioned above the rear end portion thereof and for assisting to drain fluid from the reservoir.

19. (original) The apparatus of claim 16, further comprising a plate secured to said dolly, said plate including a pin for pivotally connecting same to said handle so that said dolly can be pulled in different directions during operating conditions.

20. (original) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein at least one of said plurality of wheels is operably connected to said handle so that said one wheel is caused to move in a direction corresponding to the movement of said handle.